

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-7 and 9-20 are pending in the application. It is gratefully acknowledged that Claims 14-20 have been allowed. It is also gratefully acknowledged that Claims 6 and 13 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Examiner has rejected Claims 1, 3-5, 7 and 9-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Blakeney, II et al. (U.S. Patent 5,490,165) in view of Naruse et al. (U.S. Patent 6,263,010).

Blakeney, II et al. discloses a demodulation element assignment in a system capable of receiving multiple signals, and Naruse et al. discloses a spread spectrum communication apparatus. Applicants have amended independent Claims 1 and 7 to include the allowable subject matter of Claims 6 and 13, respectively, including the subject matter of intervening Claims 5 and 11, respectively. Claims 5, 6, 11 and 13 are cancelled without prejudice. Based on the foregoing amendments and arguments, withdrawal of the rejections of Independent Claims 1 and 7 is respectfully requested.

In addition, Claims 3 and 4 have been amended to properly depend on Claim 1.

Independent Claims 1 and 7 as amended are believed to be in condition for allowance. Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 3, 4, 9, 10 and 12, these are likewise believed to be allowable by virtue of their dependence on their respective amended independent claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of dependent Claims 3, 4, 9, 10 and 12 is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, after entry of this Response, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 12 and 14-20, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Farrell", written in a cursive style.

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